

DRAFT LETTER TO CONGRESSMAN BECKWORTH

Dear Mr. Congressman:

This is in response to your referral of August 5 forwarding a letter dated August 1, 1963 that you received from Mrs. James Stoner, Jr., which is returned herewith. It appears that your correspondent is requesting your views on the accommodations provision of the civil rights bill and also "your views on the recent statement made by Robert Kennedy that the leaders of and the NAACP in general are not communist inspired." The Attorney General's views on these matters seem to have been amply covered in his recent appearances before Congressional Committees at which he testified in support of the Administration's civil rights bill. Since Mrs. Stoner seems to be interested in receiving your personal views, further comment from this Department would seem to be inappropriate.

BJ-986
4-13-63

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TO

- ☐ ATTORNEY GENERAL
- ☐ EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
- ☐ OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
- ☐ DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
- ☐ EXECUTIVE OFFICE—U. S. ATTORNEYS
- ☐ EXECUTIVE OFFICE—U. S. MARSHALS
- ☐ SOLICITOR GENERAL
- ☐ ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION
- ☐ LIBRARY
- ☐ ANTITRUST DIVISION
- ☐ CIVIL DIVISION
- ☒ CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION
- ☐ CRIMINAL DIVISION
- ☐ INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION
- ☐ LANDS DIVISION
- ☐ TAX DIVISION
- ☐ OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL
- ☐ OFFICE OF ALIEN PROPERTY
- ☐ BUREAU OF PRISONS
- ☐ FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INC.
- ☐ FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
- ☐ IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
- ☐ PARDON ATTORNEY
- ☐ PAROLE BOARD
- ☐ BOARD OF IMMIGRATION APPEALS
- ☐ ATTENTION: *McCormick, Carlos*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL | <input type="checkbox"/> SEE ME |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION | <input type="checkbox"/> PER CONVERSATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> AS REQUESTED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NECESSARY ACTION | <input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND FILE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION | <input type="checkbox"/> CALL ME |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____ | |

REMARKS:

8-12-63

Burke:

The question of what Division should handle this response would seem to hinge on the question of what the subject matter should be. It doesn't appear to me that a discussion of Communist aspects of the civil rights movement is either advisable or required in answering Congressman Beckworth's communication. There is attached a draft along the lines of what we think should be used for a response. In the circumstances it would appear appropriate that such a reply be sent over your signature.

If you still disagree, please call me.

Walt

*Linda -
Type for my
signature,
gg*

FROM ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION

22 August 1963

Honorable Lindley Beckworth
Member of Congress
United States House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Congressman Beckworth:

This is in response to your referral of August 5 forwarding a letter dated August 1, 1963 that you received from Mrs. James Stoner, Jr., which is returned herewith. It appears from your correspondent's letter that she is requesting your views on the accommodations provision of the civil rights bill and also "your views on the recent statement made by Robert Kennedy that the leaders of and the NAACP in general are not communist inspired." The Attorney General's views on these matters seem to have been amply covered in his recent appearances before Congressional Committees at which he testified in support of the Administration's civil rights bill. As Mrs. Stoner seems to be interested in receiving your personal views, further comment from this Department would seem to be inappropriate.

Very truly yours,

Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

DATE: Sept. 6, 1963
JKH:lah
144-198-558
14,272

FROM : Jerome K. Heilbron
Attorney

SUBJECT: Telephone Call to Congressman F. Bradford Morse
Concerning Ralph W. Allen, III, and General Racial
Situation in Americus, Georgia.

As you requested, I phoned Congressman Morse
on September 5, 1963.

Immediately prior to phoning Congressman Morse, I phoned Steve Pace, Jr., Solicitor General, Americus, Georgia, to determine the current status of the following persons: Donald Stuart Harris, Ralph Waldo Allen, III, John William Perdew and Zev Aelony. All of these men have been charged with an attempt to incite an insurrection, a non-bailable, capital offense, in addition to less serious charges. They are all being held at the present time in the county jail at Americus, Georgia. (This is a new, above average jail and is approved for the purpose of holding federal prisoners). According to Steve Pace, Jr., Perdew, Allen and Harris have all had commitment hearings and have been bound over to the Grand Jury which meets in November, 1963. A commitment hearing was scheduled for Zev Aelony at 10:30 A. M., September 5, 1963 but Aelony's attorney, C. B. King, did not show up at the appointed time and the witnesses were released. When C. B. King did show up, approximately 25 minutes after the time set for the hearing, a new hearing was set for 10:30 A. M., Saturday, September 7, 1963.

We have had several complaints that persons other than lawyers have not been able to see prisoners at the Americus, Sumter County jail when they call upon them. Mr. Pace advises me that visitors hours are at 1:00 P. M. on Saturday only, and that to his knowledge it would be alright for anyone to visit any prisoner at that time.

Mr. Pace advised that he would be glad to furnish information concerning the above subject to anyone who might wish to call him. He stated "We have nothing to hide". I explained to him that we

- 2 -

had had several inquiries from various members of Congress and that I might refer them to him. His number is 924-9837, Americus, Georgia.

My conversation with Congressman Morse was very brief. I told him of the current status of the above mentioned defendants. He mentioned his conversation with you and wanted me to furnish him with a written report of whatever information we had concerning the above defendants, with special reference to his constituent, Ralph Allen, III. I told him we were still investigating some of the police brutality matters in Americus, but that I would furnish him with such a written report.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Lindley Beckwith
M.C.

Mrs. James Stoner, Jr.
Route 2, Box 26 ¹⁰ 3926

Gladeview,
TEXAS.

0
RECEIVED

THIS MAIL SHOULD BE

ACKNOWLEDGED WITHIN 48 HOURS

0
22 August 1963

Honorable Lindley Beckworth
Member of Congress
United States House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Congressman Beckworth:

This is in response to your referral of August 5 forwarding a letter dated August 1, 1963 that you received from Mrs. James Stoner, Jr., which is returned herewith. It appears from your correspondent's letter that she is requesting your views on the accommodations provision of the civil rights bill and also "your views on the recent statement made by Robert Kennedy that the leaders of and the NAACP in general are not communist inspired." The Attorney General's views on these matters seem to have been amply covered in his recent appearances before Congressional Committees at which he testified in support of the Administration's civil rights bill. As Mrs. Stoner seems to be interested in receiving your personal views, further comment from this Department would seem to be inappropriate.

Very truly yours,

Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

0 0

20 September 1963

Honorable Lindley Beckworth
Member of Congress
United States House of
Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

As you requested, a copy of
the letter sent to Senator Monroney
regarding the possibility of
Communist influence in racial
matters is enclosed.

Very truly yours,

Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

... Lindley Beckworth wants a copy of the
AGs letter on "no communist influence
in civil rights".

Do I send it?

Send copy of letter sent ¹ to
Olson

~~Miss~~
Congressional

13 March 1963

Honorable Augustus F. Hawkins
Member of Congress
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

The Attorney General asked me to respond to your letter concerning the use of Emmett Ashford as an umpire in the major leagues.

I have endeavored to look into this matter in an informal fashion, but have not been able to find anything useful that we could do. Obviously the matter is not one of official concern to the Attorney General or the Department of Justice. As your letter suggests, any help that the Attorney General could give would have to be on a personal basis. Unfortunately, he is not acquainted with any of the people that you refer to, and is not acquainted at all with Mr. Frick.

Both the Attorney General and I will keep this in mind in case some occasion should arise upon which one of us might say something useful.

Very truly yours,

Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Congress.

13 May 1963

Honorable Emanuel Celler
Member of Congress
United States House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Congressman Celler:

Thank you for your letter of May 10th about
Mr. John W. Johnson. I have asked Mr. Dear, the
First Assistant in the Civil Rights Division, to
write Mr. Johnson and arrange for a personal inter-
view.

Sincerely,

Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

applicants

13 May 1963

John W. Johnson, Esquire
1207 Columbia Road, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I understand you are interested
in working for the Civil Rights
Division. If you will call my secre-
tary and arrange for an interview,
I will be happy to see you.

Sincerely,

JOHN BOAR
First Assistant
Civil Rights Division

EIGHTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS

EMANUEL CELLER, N.Y., CHAIRMAN

FRANCIS E. WALTER, PA.
 ARTHUR L. FERGUSON, OHIO
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 JAMES E. BROWNELL, OHIO
 CARLETON J. HINE, D.C.
 PATRICK EDWIN MATTHEW, CHIEF

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S.
 COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
 WASHINGTON, D.C.**

May 10, 1963

STAFF DIRECTOR

ROSS E. BARK

GENERAL COUNSEL:
 WILLIAM E. FOLEY
LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT:
 WALTER M. BENTLEYMAN

CHIEF OF STAFF:
 MURRAY BRADEN
 DEWITT FORD
 WILLIAM F. BARTON
LAW REVISION COUNCIL:
 CHARLES J. EMM
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL:
 WILLIAM H. GIBSON

**Mr. Burke Marshall
 Assistant Attorney General
 Civil Rights Division
 Department of Justice
 Washington 25, D.C.**

Dear Mr. Marshall:

I am taking the liberty of enclosing a copy of the letter I have received from Mr. John W. Johnson who seeks employment as an attorney with the Civil Rights Division.

Mr. Johnson appears to me to have excellent qualifications, and I commend him to your attention should a vacancy exist.

Sincerely yours,

Emanuel Celler
**Emanuel Celler
 Chairman**

**EC:dc
 Enclosure**

1207 Columbia Road, N.W.
Washington, D. C.
May 8, 1963

Hon. Emanuel Celler
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Miss Dick

Dear Sirs:

In writing this letter, I am respectfully requesting that I be granted an appointment with you to discuss my application for employment as an attorney with the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division. I would appreciate a letter of recommendation from you to the Department of Justice.

I shall be happy to submit resumes, documents and any other material or information that may be required. A brief outline of my background and qualifications is stated below.

Personal Data: Age 28; born in Sumnerfield, Louisiana; single; available for work that may require frequent traveling.

Education: Graduate of Brown High School, Springhill, Louisiana; Graduate of Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, B. A. Degree; Graduate of the Howard University School of Law, Washington, D. C., LL.B. Degree (graduated in upper ten per cent of class).

Bar Membership: Member of the Louisiana State Bar Association; Member of the Federal Bar Association (Capitol Hill Chapter).

Present Employment: I am presently employed by the United States Copyright Office, Library of Congress (Phone: Sterling 3-0400, Ext. 293).

My prime interest is in the field of constitutional law with particular emphasis in the area of civil rights.

RECEIVED
JAN 10 1954
FBI - BOSTON

A personal interview would permit me to elaborate on my background, qualifications and experience.

I thank you very kindly for any assistance that you may be able to offer me regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

John W. Johnson
JOHN W. JOHNSON

Home Set Afire by Bombs, Mississippi Negro Asserts

LEXINGTON, Miss., May 8 (UPI)—A Negro civil rights leader said that his rural home near here was set afire today by several Molotov cocktails thrown into the residence.

Hartman Turnbow, who has been leading a voter registration campaign in Holmes County, also said that several shots were fired into his house after the cocktails — bottles filled with gasoline—touched off the fire.

The police arrested and jailed another Negro civil rights leader, Robert Moses, on a charge of impeding an investigation of the fire. Deputy Sheriff Andrew Smith said that Mr. Moses, a New Yorker and field secretary of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, hindered the police at the scene of the investigation.

Mrs. James Stoner
Rt. 2 Box 26
Gladewater, Texas
75647



The Honorable Lindley Beckworth
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Rt. 2 Box 26
Gladewater, Texas
August 1, 1963

The Honorable Lindley Beckworth
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Beckworth:

Please send me your views on the recent statement made by Robert Kennedy that the leaders of and the NAACP in general are not communist inspired. How can he be so certain unless these people are fully investigated? Also how do you feel about the present accommodations bill endorsed by Mr. Kennedy?

Requesting an answer and thanking you,

Respectively,

Charles Stoner
Mrs. James Stoner, Jr.

H. B.

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

RECEIVED 8-5. 1962

ALL RECEIVED

INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION

Sir: ~~INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION~~

The attached communication
is sent for your consideration.
Please investigate the statements
contained therein and forward me
the necessary information for re-
ply, returning the enclosed corre-
spondence with your answer.

Yours truly,

Lindley Beckworth
M. C.

Please discuss 144-75-0
7-5-62

8/4/62
D.A.K.
CIV. RIGHTS DIV.
Gen. Inv. Sec.
INTERNAL SECURITY DIV.
Gen. Inv. Sec.
18 AUG 6
12

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

Department of Justice
Washington

22 August 1963

Honorable Lindley Beckworth
Member of Congress
United States House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Congressman Beckworth:

This is in response to your referral of August 5 forwarding a letter dated August 1, 1963 that you received from Mrs. James Stoner, Jr., which is returned herewith. It appears from your correspondent's letter that she is requesting your views on the accommodations provision of the civil rights bill and also "your views on the recent statement made by Robert Kennedy that the leaders of and the NAACP in general are not communist inspired." The Attorney General's views on these matters seem to have been amply covered in his recent appearances before Congressional Committees at which he testified in support of the Administration's civil rights bill. As Mrs. Stoner seems to be interested in receiving your personal views, further comment from this Department would seem to be inappropriate.

Very truly yours,

Borke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

*Send to
Jim & Carolyn
I sent us
your
like all
Stoners
Marshall*

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

9/12 1963

Sir:

The attached communication
is sent for your consideration.
Please investigate the statements
contained therein and forward me
the necessary information for re-
ply, returning the enclosed corre-
spondence with your answer.

144-750 Yours truly,

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
SEP 13 1963
R. S. M. Beckworth
M. C.

R. S. M.
I'd like a copy of
the statement by
Attorney General
Kennedy on the
O'Donoghue Committee, but

October 25 1963

Honorable George Huddleston, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

The Attorney General has referred to me for consideration your letter of October 7, 1963, pertaining to the disclosure by Senator Morse of the records of Governor George C. Wallace as a discharged disabled veteran of World War II.

Inquiry made of the Veterans Administration reveals that the Veterans Administration takes the position that its records fail to disclose that it has ever given information from the file relating to Governor Wallace to Senator Morse and, furthermore, there is no record that Senator Morse ever requested the information.

I note that Section 1.507 of Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, specifically authorizes disclosure of information to Members of Congress under certain circumstances. It reads in pertinent part:

"Members of Congress shall be furnished in their official capacity in any case such information contained in the Veterans Administration files as may be requested for official use. However, in any unusual case, the request will be presented to the Administrator, Deputy Administrator, Assistant Administrator, or department head for personal action. When the requested information is of a type which may not be furnished a claimant, the Member of Congress shall be advised that the information is furnished to him confidentially in his official capacity and should be so treated by him...."

10-25-63 See from Mr. Selig's Office

- 2 -

Information of the type which may not be furnished to a claimant, as set forth above, would appear to be information the disclosure of which would be injurious to the physical or mental health of the claimant, as set forth in Section 3201 of Title 38, United States Code.

In view of the foregoing, it is my suggestion that the information which you seek must be obtained from the Veterans Administration or, alternatively, from the Senator who made the disclosure.

If I can be of help in any other connection, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely,

Herbert J. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

October 23, 1963

Honorable George Huddleston, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

I have your further letter of October 23, 1963, to the Attorney General, which has now been referred to me for consideration. I trust you will have received my letter in reply to yours of October 7 by this time. I sincerely regret the delay in replying to your earlier letter which was caused primarily because your letter was misdirected within the Department when it was first received and, accordingly, did not reach the Criminal Division for some time.

Sincerely,

Herbert I. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

RECORDED

BM:ls

15 November 1963

Honorable George Huddleston, Jr.
Member of Congress
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

The Attorney General has asked me to reply to your letter of 7 November concerning use by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., of an automobile rented by a lawyer employed by the Department of Justice.

It is of course contrary to the Department regulations for any automobile rented by a Department employee to be used for any purpose other than official business. Accordingly, what happened was contrary to such regulations.

Unfortunately, instead of admitting his mistake, the lawyer involved denied having lent the car to anyone. All objective checks of his story were consistent with it. You will recall, for example, that the first reports from state and local officials were to the effect that Department of Justice employees had driven Dr. King all around the State of Alabama. It could be objectively ascertained, and was, that the lawyer involved never left Birmingham, and that, contrary to charges at the time, no car rented by the Department could conceivably have been used to transport Dr. King from Selma to Montgomery.

Accordingly, the Department official denied the charges in good faith.

cc: Records
Chrono
Marshall
Doar

Trial File

1 0
-2-

On the night of November 5, the lawyer involved voluntarily admitted that he had not given the Department the true facts. Without this admission it would not have been known. As soon as possible after the admission was made, the Department publicly acknowledged its error and expressed its regret.

Accordingly, your request for an expression of regret seems inappropriate.

Very truly yours,

BURKE MARSHALL
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

March 8, 1967

The Honorable Ross R. Barnett
Governor of Mississippi
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear Governor Barnett:

The President has asked me to reply to your telegram regarding the use of the National Guard Armory at Oxford, Mississippi, by military personnel.

Some days prior to receipt of your telegram, the Army had already decided upon a plan for a further reduction of the numbers of military personnel which are still required to be stationed in the Oxford vicinity. This plan also involves the withdrawal of military personnel both from the Armory and from the airport property. I understand that the Army has now publicly announced this plan, which will be put into effect in the near future.

This step accomplishes the request made in your telegram to the President.

I should like also to take this opportunity to repeat that we are also completely ready and willing to withdraw the military personnel in the Oxford vicinity. All that is required is for you and other officials of the State to give adequate assurance by deed and word that you will accept and carry out the

basic responsibility of the State for maintaining law and order at the University. Obviously, under the circumstances, this involves an acceptance of the responsibility for the personal safety of James Meredith as well as for the safety of persons and property of other citizens in Mississippi.

I hope I can hear from you on this. We continue to be entirely willing at any time to discuss with you or your representatives, at any place, any concrete steps you intend to take which would eliminate the necessity for maintaining a federal military force at Oxford.

Very truly yours,

Attorney General



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JACKSON

ROSS R. BARNETT
GOVERNOR

March 19, 1963

The Honorable Robert Kennedy
Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C.

My dear General Kennedy:

This acknowledges receipt of your letter of March 8, 1963, which is in reply to my telegram to the President relative to withdrawal of military personnel from the Armory located in Oxford, Mississippi. I am proud that the necessary is being done so that the Armory may be returned to the Guard Unit located in Oxford.

Under the provisions of Section 213-A of the Constitution of the State of Mississippi, the Board of Trustees of Institutions of Higher Learning has the full control and management of state institutions of higher learning.

Any question involving the policing of the University of Mississippi would be solely within the jurisdiction of this Board.

Very truly yours,

Ross R. Barnett
GOVERNOR

Confidential

20530

July 17, 1963

Honorable Leroy R. Johnson
The State Senate
Senate Chamber
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Senator:

Thank you for sending Mr. Amos' application. We will see if we cannot move ahead on it. I will let you know.

Best regards,

Burke Marshall

[Incoming letter sent to Nick Katzenbach]

OCT 7 1963

B. Marshall - Room 1145

Honorable John S. Casey
Member, House of Representatives
State of Alabama
Box No. 266
Heflin, Alabama

Dear Representative Casey:

I have your letter of September 19, which was of course written before the President met with the representatives of the city of Birmingham, and with a group of white ministers from there. This was in accordance with our continuing policy to consult white leadership, as well as others, about these problems, and to make every effort to see if they cannot be resolved voluntarily and locally, without federal action of any sort.

But there is nothing we can do to make the problems disappear. It is not a question of votes. This is a national problem on which we must make progress. It cannot be made to go away by sending troopers to close schools, or by a Governor establishing a police state, or by policies of repression.

I have repeatedly and publically stated that court orders should be respected and obeyed by everyone, Dr. King as well as Governor Wallace.

It seems to me accordingly, that your letter is based on demonstrably erroneous premises of facts. I hope you will reexamine your conclusions on that basis.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT F. KENNEDY

Attorney General

ok.
BM

() (-)
-2-

P.S. It might also be remembered, Mr. Casey, that both the President and I have met with the Governor on this matter -- and personally I have talked and conferred with white business and political leaders in Birmingham many, many more times than I have met with leaders of the Negro community. For reasons that the tenor of your letter makes obvious, these white officials do not wish to make such conferences public.

RFK



CLEBURNE COUNTY
John S. Casey
Sen. 22
KEFLER, ALABAMA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

September 19, 1963

*File
If get mailer & mail
so he can't see letter.
If letter is worth a reply
leave
P.S.*

Honorable Robert F. Kennedy
United States Attorney General
Justice Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

I had occasion to view your appearance today on the NBC news "Today" program. Some of your remarks interested me more than usual and prompted this letter. I do hope that somehow this letter will be brought to your personal attention.

First, in regard to the Birmingham situation, may I say at the outset that I deeply deplore the church bombing and other recent events that have transpired there. The Average Alabamian and the image of our beloved state are being desecrated by the actions of a few degenerates and I would not be surprised to learn that some of these are members of the Negro race. Perhaps your remarks about the communication between the races there are true in many respects. I thought at the time, and it is my opinion, that your remarks were those of a hypocrite, I ask you what have you or any member of this administration done toward opening the lines of communication between Washington and the white citizens of Alabama? It seems that certain Negroes from Alabama and the South have a key to the White House while the officials of this state cannot get a hearing. Is this your policy to hear one side of the story? Is it the policy of this administration to condemn without a hearing? I get the impression that your actions and the policy of this administration is not a sincere design or effort to aid the Negro as a race, but that every action and every statement appears to be carefully designed by purely political motivations. If you are sincerely interested in the civil rights problems in Alabama and the South, why not consult white business and political leaders to discuss the matter? None of these people have been invited to the White House for discussions to my knowledge. The white people of the South deeply resent your one-sided efforts in this field and I believe they have just cause to do so. If you and this administration are genuinely interested in the rights of

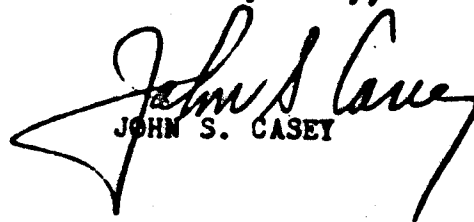
Honorable Robert F. Kennedy
September 19, 1963
Page #2

minority groups, why not give some consideration to the law-abiding white southerner? This is currently the most persecuted minority in the world.

Second, you state that the violence in Birmingham is directly attributable to the actions of Governor Wallace. May I say that I did not support the Governor in his election efforts for many reasons. However, I do support him whenever I believe he is right. Such remarks by you are pure hypocrisy, nowhere has Mr. Wallace ever condoned or encouraged violence. Had he not been present and taken the precautions he did at the University of Alabama in June the occurrences there would have made the University of Mississippi riots look like a church picnic. I did not support Mr. Wallace's "schoolhouse door" stand, but I do concede that he had every right as a citizen and perhaps a duty as governor of this state to test any law or court decision to the fullest extent in the courts of this land. Why were your remarks today pure hypocrisy? Martin Luther King's philosophy is to break any law which he believes to be wrong and he has the full support and encouragement of the Kennedy Administration and also ready access to the White House at his will. You cannot justly criticize Governor Wallace on the one hand and condone the same action by someone else on the other.

May I say in closing that I gave my whole hearted support to President Kennedy in 1960. I served as county finance chairman and aided in raising funds for the national party and for the Alabama campaign. I have tried in every way to be objective with the national administration and the tremendous civil rights problem that it faces. However I don't think it's asking too much for the same consideration from the administration. I hope that by your actions, which I don't believe are sincere, you and this administration have secured ever Negro vote in this country and by the same token I hope you lose ever white vote. I believe that the best answer to the immediate problem is the retirement of the Kennedy Administration in 1964.

Yours very truly,


JOHN S. CASEY

JSC:sw



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CLERMONT COUNTY

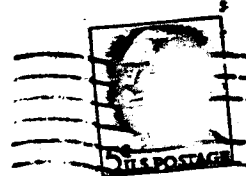
John S. Conroy

Dist. 20

MOBILE, ALABAMA

36264

PERSONAL



**Honorable Robert F. Kennedy
United States Attorney General
Justice Department
Washington, D. C.**

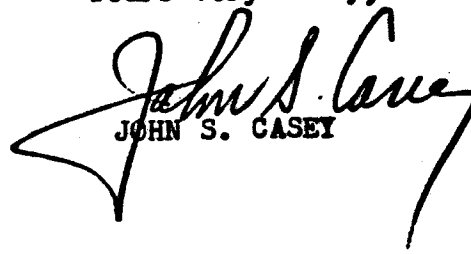
Honorable Robert F. Kennedy
September 19, 1963
Page #2

minority groups, why not give some consideration to the law-abiding white southerner? This is currently the most persecuted minority in the world.

Second, you state that the violence in Birmingham is directly attributable to the actions of Governor Wallace. May I say that I did not support the Governor in his election efforts for many reasons. However, I do support him whenever I believe he is right. Such remarks by you are pure hypocrisy, nowhere has Mr. Wallace ever condoned or encouraged violence. Had he not been present and taken the precautions he did at the University of Alabama in June the occurrences there would have made the University of Mississippi riots look like a church picnic. I did not support Mr. Wallace's "schoolhouse door" stand, but I do concede that he had every right as a citizen and perhaps a duty as governor of this state to test any law or court decision to the fullest extent in the courts of this land. Why were your remarks today pure hypocrisy? Martin Luther King's philosophy is to break any law which he believes to be wrong and he has the full support and encouragement of the Kennedy Administration and also ready access to the White House at his will. You cannot justly criticize Governor Wallace on the one hand and condone the same action by someone else on the other.

May I say in closing that I gave my whole hearted support to President Kennedy in 1960. I served as county finance chairman and aided in raising funds for the national party and for the Alabama campaign. I have tried in every way to be objective with the national administration and the tremendous civil rights problem that it faces. However I don't think it's asking too much for the same consideration from the administration. I hope that by your actions, which I don't believe are sincere, you and this administration have secured ever Negro vote in this country and by the same token I hope you lose ever white vote. I believe that the best answer to the immediate problem is the retirement of the Kennedy Administration in 1964.

Yours very truly,


JOHN S. CASEY

JSC:sw

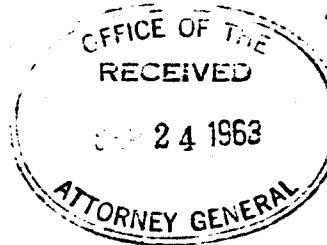


HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

September 19, 1963

CLEBURNE COUNTY
John S. Casey
Box 200
KEFLIN, ALABAMA



*File
If get nothing & make
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AMZ*

Honorable Robert F. Kennedy
United States Attorney General
Justice Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

I had occasion to view your appearance today on the NBC news "Today" program. Some of your remarks interested me more than usual and prompted this letter. I do hope that somehow this letter will be brought to your personal attention.

First, in regard to the Birmingham situation, may I say at the outset that I deeply deplore the church bombing and other recent events that have transpired there. The Average Alabamian and the image of our beloved state are being desecrated by the actions of a few degenerates and I would not be surprised to learn that some of these are members of the Negro race. Perhaps your remarks about the communication between the races there are true in many respects. I thought at the time, and it is my opinion, that your remarks were those of a hypocrite, I ask you what have you or any member of this administration done toward opening the lines of communication between Washington and the white citizens of Alabama? It seems that certain Negroes from Alabama and the South have a key to the White House while the officials of this state cannot get a hearing. Is this your policy to hear one side of the story? Is it the policy of this administration to condemn without a hearing? I get the impression that your actions and the policy of this administration is not a sincere design or effort to aid the Negro as a race, but that every action and every statement appears to be carefully designed by purely political motivations. If you are sincerely interested in the civil rights problems in Alabama and the South, why not consult white business and political leaders to discuss the matter? None of these people have been invited to the White House for discussions to my knowledge. The white people of the South deeply resent your one-sided efforts in this field and I believe they have just cause to do so. If you and this administration are genuinely interested in the rights of

Robert F. Kennedy
U.S. Attorney General
Washington, D. C.

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ALL

Form No. 2-11
(Ed. 3-9-61)

FX

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Deputy Attorney General.....	
Solicitor General	
Executive Assistant to the Attorney General	
Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust	
Assistant Attorney General, Tax	
Assistant Attorney General, Civil	
Assistant Attorney General, Lands	
Assistant Attorney General, Criminal.....	
Assistant Attorney General, Legal Counsel.....	
Assistant Attorney General, Internal Security.....	
Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights	
Administrative Assistant Attorney General.....	
Director, FBI.....	
Director, Bureau of Prisons.....	
Director, Office of Alien Property.....	
Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization...	
Pardon Attorney	
Parole Board	
Board of Immigration Appeals	
Special Assistant for Public Information	
Records Administration Office	

For the attention of Burke Marshall

9/25/63

REMARKS: He got madder and madder as he wrote this letter. I think it is worth a reply however.

RK

OCT 7 1963

B. Marshall - Room 1145

Honorable John S. Casey
Member, House of Representatives
State of Alabama
Box No. 266
Mafila, Alabama

Dear Representative Casey:

I have your letter of September 19, which was of course written before the President met with the representatives of the city of Birmingham, and with a group of white ministers from there. This was in accordance with our continuing policy to consult white leadership, as well as others, about these problems, and to make every effort to see if they cannot be resolved voluntarily and locally, without federal action of any sort.

But there is nothing we can do to make the problems disappear. It is not a question of votes. This is a national problem on which we must make progress. It cannot be made to go away by sending troopers to close schools, or by a Governor establishing a police state, or by policies of repression.

I have repeatedly and publically stated that court orders should be respected and obeyed by everyone, Dr. King as well as Governor Wallace.

It seems to me accordingly, that your letter is based on demonstrably erroneous premises of facts. I hope you will reexamine your conclusions on that basis.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT F. KENNEDY

Attorney General

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P.S. It might also be remembered, Mr. Casey, that both the President and I have met with the Governor on this matter -- and personally I have talked and conferred with white business and political leaders in Birmingham many, many more times than I have met with leaders of the Negro community. For reasons that the tenor of your letter makes obvious, these white officials do not wish to make such conferences public.

RFE

0 12

26 November 1963

Honorable William Wallace Barron
Governor of the State of West
Virginia
Executive Mansion
Charleston, West Virginia

Dear Governor:

The Attorney General appreciated your letter. I do not know whether your meeting will be cancelled in view of the President's death. In any event, I am enclosing eight copies of a memorandum prepared here following our discussion with the Attorney General last week. I am at your service if there is any way I can be of assistance.

Very truly yours,

Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Enclosures

November 20, 1963
"Centennial Year"

The Honorable Robert Kennedy
The Attorney General
- Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

At the opening session of the National Governors' Conference held in July, 1963, at Miami Beach, Florida, a motion was made that would have required unanimity of the Conference for the adoption of a resolution on Civil Rights. Governor Rockefeller proposed a closure of a two-thirds vote on the motion. The parliamentary maneuvering resulted in the abolition of the Resolutions Committee and the Civil Rights matter was avoided in the form of a resolution. In lieu thereof, the Conference directed that the entire matter of Civil Rights be made a top priority subject for the consideration by the newly-elected Executive Committee.

At the first meeting of the Executive Committee, composed of myself, Governor John Anderson, Jr., of Kansas, Chairman, Governor Frank G. Clement, Tennessee, Governor Richard J. Hughes, New Jersey, Governor John A. Love, Colorado, Governor John H. Reed, Maine, Governor James A. Rhodes, Ohio, Governor Albert D. Rosellini, Washington, and Governor Matthew E. Welsh, Indiana, the Committee agreed to work toward a firm and reasonable recommendation to be presented at the next Annual Meeting of the Governors' Conference in June, 1964.

It is my feeling that the Executive Committee should predicate and fashion its approach to the entire matter of Civil Rights in such way that it will cohere and blend with the thinking of the President and you. The Executive Committee will meet again at Miami Beach on December 2, 1963, at which time some concept of direction should be formulated, followed by a staffing and timely report of progress made to you.

The Honorable Robert Kennedy
Page 2

Because there is not at this time any indication of what may come out of the Conference by way of resolution, and in view of the National Governors' Conference preceding the Republican and Democratic National Conventions, it is of vital concern that there be an identification of approach by the Executive Committee and the National Administration, to insure harmony and accord.

Immediately following the December 2, 1963, meeting, I will send you a complete report, and request that our respective staffs meet and work out plans for the next meeting. If such a plan meets with your approval, I would suggest that other faithful Democratic members be advised of the approach and their staff members be invited to attend the meeting.

Sincerely,


WILLIAM WALLACE BARRON
GOVERNOR

WWB/sd

cc: Honorable Burke Marshall